



Joel Robinson Visits Glen Park

John Dahlen

Joel Robinson, acting general manager of the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department, was the guest speaker at the September meeting of the Glen Park Association.

Robinson announced many changes in his department, including the merger of Recreation and Parks as one. In addition, he spoke about the division of his department into four separate sectors. Each sector will be supervised by one person who will be responsible for custodial, gardening and maintenance service.

Glen Canyon Park is part of a 14-park sector that will be supervised by Lynn Greenlaw whose operational base will be the Recreation Center in Glen Canyon Park. She is now responsible for the entire park structure including the recreation staff and all programs presented at our Rec Center. She will also oversee all the activities in the rest of the park, including Silvertree and the "back of the Canyon."

Opening the floor to questions, Robinson was very positive about community interest in Glen Canyon Park. In response to questions from the audience, he agreed to the placement of additional garbage cans, maintenance for the lighting on the rear of the Rec Center, the proposed new park entrance and child drop-off zone, focusing of the lights in the tennis courts and better communication between the staff and park users.

Robinson commented on how Glen Canyon Park has become a multi-use park open to all kinds of activities including baseball, soccer, volleyball, tennis, picnicking, dog walking, hiking, rock climbing, bike riding and many activities not available in most parks in San Francisco.

He also commented on the success of the Silvertree Day Camp this year. The increase in the diversity of campers, the ability of parents to enjoy a stressless walk in the park, and the protection of the environment were the direct result of Robinson's role in the return of buses for transportation to the camp. He said Silvertree was successful in 1997 and will be even better in 1998 with the experience gained from this year.

Greenlaw attended the meeting with Robinson and his assistant, Charlene Nichols; she and Nichols were busy taking notes as suggestions were made to improve the park and the services provided by the staff.

Anyone interested in Glen Canyon Park and the activities provided are encouraged to join the Glen Park Association and work with Molly Wright and Richard Craib, co-chairs of the Recreation and Park Committee. The GPA provides a public forum to discuss issues concerning Glen Park as a whole and, through its committees, informs the community of meetings and issues in the Glen Park News and posting of notices in public places.

The GPA welcomes our partnership with Joel Robinson and looks forward to working with him, Charlene Nichols and Lynn Greenlaw to preserve and enhance our "jewel," Glen Canyon Park.

Friends of Glen Canyon Restoration Team

Jean Conner

The Friends of Glen Canyon Restoration Team is a small group of volunteers who work in the natural areas of the canyon doing habitat restoration. We meet on the third Saturday of each month at 9 a.m. behind the Recreation Center and walk to the area where we will be working. We take rest breaks whenever we feel the need until 11:30 a.m. when we take a short nature walk through the canyon to enjoy the results of our past work and plan future projects.

Work in the canyon is an educational experience. We learn from our work and from each other about plants, animals and their relationships as well as about gardening in a natural area.



WILD RADISH

Volunteers enjoy the physical work in the open air and the good feelings one gets from contributing to a worthwhile project. We are frequently joined by other groups such as Team America from the Bank of America, Girl Scouts, McAteer Nature Club, Marriott Hotel volunteers and Gay and Lesbian Sierrans from the Sierra Lesbian Club. Our volunteers have ranged in age from four and a half to 79. Everyone can contribute.

Most of our habitat restoration has been the removal of exotic plants and weeds that are crowding out our native plants. Non-native plants such as French broom or wild radish produce a

continued on page 3

City Changes Undergrounding Program

Hal Jordy III

Many thanks to those who responded to my article in the last issue of Glen Park News regarding undergrounding utility wires. The response was so encouraging that I felt we were ready to move forward with petitions in some areas of Glen Park. I contacted the City to confirm that I had the appropriate petition forms. What I learned instead is that the petitioning process has been canceled! In the time since I sent my last article to the City to be reviewed for accuracy, the Board of Supervisors approved an agreement that ties the undergrounding of wires to the replacement of gas lines by PG&E. Following is the text of the letter the Department of Public Works is now sending to those who inquire about the undergrounding project:

"Thank you for your [inquiry]. As you know, the Board of Supervisors approved an agreement whereby City and PG&E will be combining the undergrounding of overhead utilities with PG&E's gas main replacement program. Because the gas main replacement program is so extensive and undergrounding funds are limited, criteria outlined by the California Public Utilities Commission and contained in the City's Public Works Code were utilized to select candidate areas.

"Approximately 55 miles of streets were selected as eligible candidates to be undergrounded under this accelerated joint project. Of these, 42 miles will be selected to be undergrounded under the new program. The potential districts were identified as having streets that carry a heavy volume of pedestrian and vehicle traffic or areas that are in the general public interest, such as areas around parks and community centers. Potential candidates are within areas designated for PG&E's gas pipeline replacement program. Also considered are areas containing City major capital improvement projects and those areas which had previously verified petitions in the assessment process for the provision of streetlights in undergrounding districts. In addition, we are attempting to spread the program in all sections of the City, especially those in which little has been undergrounded in the past.

"The total package is based on accelerating the undergrounding program and combining undergrounding with gas main replacement. By proceeding in this fashion, the scheduling of any neighborhood will be dependent upon the scheduling of gas main replacements, which need to proceed in an orderly fashion.

"The Department of Public Works is working with the Board of Supervisors to develop a policy for prioritizing areas to be undergrounded after the current joint undergrounding/gas main replacement effort is completed. Public Works has been strongly urged by the Mayor's office to join capital projects wherever possible. PG&E's pipeline replacement program offers the potential for extending this joint project beyond the current 4-1/2 year construction schedule, as do numerous other public and private capital projects.

"We encourage your continued interest in the program, but do not recommend petitioning at this time. If you have any further questions on this matter, please feel free to call."

The good news in all of this is that the City is moving to accelerate

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Glen Park News

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the undergrounding of wires and is working to use money efficiently by combining projects. The bad news is that there is no clear method by which we can make the undergrounding of wires in our neighborhood a priority. Of course, that doesn't mean we can't try!

I've sent a letter to the manager for the Undergrounding Project to express my disappointment that the petition process was eliminated just before we began that process. I included a copy of my prior article as evidence of the efforts we had made to build awareness and interest in the program. In that letter I also expressed continued interest in seeing our wires move underground and asked to be informed of any decisions made for the future of the undergrounding project.

I'll do my best to keep the Glen Park Association and all those who contacted me directly informed of any new developments.

If you are interested in this program and have not yet done so, please call Hal Jordy at 469-9384 and leave your name, address and phone number.

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SPECIAL ORDERS WELCOME



In Glen Canyon Park

—Jean Conner

One of my neighbors stopped me on the street the other day to tell me about seeing a red-tailed hawk catch a pigeon late in the afternoon in Christopher playground. The sun was low in the West. He saw the hawk come swooping in from the canyon with the sun behind it and grab one of the pigeons from the roof of the recreation center. That pigeon had hardly any chance at all. It sat there dozing in the sun, probably full of junk food it had scavenged from the Diamond Heights shopping center. It would have needed to look directly into the sun in order to see the hawk.

I thought, "What a smart hawk!" But since then I have learned that other people have seen hawks use the sun as a blind when after prey.

I wonder how many pigeon dinners our red-tailed hawks had this summer in Glen Canyon Park. Pigeon feeding behavior puts them at a disadvantage. The pigeon swallows food whole and will eat until its crop is full before it flies away to perch and digest. When feeding, pigeons



seem reluctant to fly and will often freeze when danger threatens. That is a "sitting pigeon." Smaller birds such as sparrows and house finches do not store food in their crop—the pouched enlargement of the gullet that serves as a receptacle for food. They seek shelter at the slightest hint of danger.

A hawk such as the small sharp-shinned hawk, with its long, narrow tail and short, rounded wings can maneuver through a wooded area after small birds. But the red-tailed hawk, a large bird with broad wings and a broad, fanned tail, cannot maneuver easily through a forested area. It is built for gliding and soaring over open areas and swooping down to capture prey with its talons. It hunts rodents, lizards, snakes and insects as well as birds.

Most hawks migrate to warmer climates in late summer and fall, but our red-tailed hawks have no need to migrate and so remain here year-round. Courtship begins at the end of December, and you will see a pair flying and circling each other. The larger of the pair is the female. There are several theories as to why she has evolved to be larger than her mate. One is that she needs the extra bulk for egg producing and also because she spends a longer time on the nest. Some ornithologists have suggested that her larger size is a defense against a mate with sharp beak and claws. In one of the courtship displays, the pair lock talons while in flight and tumble through the air. Sounds dangerous!

Both hawks take part in nest building. Our red-tails have sometimes

had as many as three nests in the eucalyptus grove, but they seem to refurbish the old nest and re-use it. A couple of years ago something went wrong. It was noticed in early August that the nest had been taken over by a different pair of hawks. Something had happened to the former pair. Later, a neighbor living near the park reported finding a large quantity of hawk feathers in her yard.

The new couple raised one chick this summer and by early September the three red-tails were seen flying together. In early fall the young birds must leave their parents' territory. Where there is much open land, the offspring set up housekeeping near their parents' territory. Here, however, they may have to travel quite a distance to find an unoccupied area with a good food supply. The adult hawks will remain in the area, going their own way and ignoring each other until late December when they begin their courtship again.

Glen Canyon Park is fortunate to have suitable habitat for the red-tailed hawks. It is a wonderful experience to observe the family of hawks as they go through their yearly cycle.

Friends of Glen Canyon Restoration Team

continued from page 1

monoculture with little or no habitat value for insects such as the butterflies we all enjoy. Native plants provide shelter as well as food for animals such as a grey fox that was living in the canyon just two years ago. The wider the variety of native plants we have in the canyon, the greater the variety of animals the habitat will support. Glen Canyon is lucky because it has three distinct habitats—grassland, riparian and coastal scrub—which provide a biodiversity not found in other parks in the city.

The natural time for planting in the canyon is after the winter rains begin. This year the "Friends" will have several planting work days. We will be planting native plants which have been grown from cuttings or seeds collected in the canyon. Watch for announcements and come join us. No experience is necessary. Tools and instructions are provided. If you are unable to volunteer you can still contribute by making a donation for the purchase of tools and other restoration supplies.

For further information, contact Richard Craib at 648-0862 or Jean Conner at 584-8576.



Letters to the Editors

We have a Letters to the Editors column. Please send us letters about our neighborhood, city policies or whatever you think our readers might be interested in hearing about.

Any cartoonists out there? We would be happy to have a cartoon in our GP newspaper. If you have an idea for an article and/or would care to write one, please call 737-1366 and someone will get back to you.

Holiday Recycle Tip

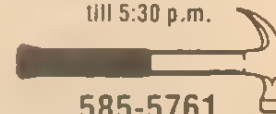
Sometimes our well-meaning friends and family send us gifts, carefully wrapping them and protecting the contents with those Styrofoam 'peanuts.' Yes. Those 'peanuts' that seem to come alive and jump all over when one tries to put them in the garbage. As you know, they do not decompose and are terrible for the landfill. Well, many mailbox and packaging businesses will take clean 'peanuts' and reuse them again for other packaging needs. The land fill is saved, the peanuts get reused and we no longer have to ponder what to do with them!

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Check It Out At The Library

—Jane Hudson

A Remembrance. The library staff was very sorry to hear of the death of our longtime friend and landlord, Bill Tietz. He and his wife, Val, came to the rescue of the Glen Park Branch Library back in 1977 when the branch had lost its lease and needed a new home. The Tietzes offered their storefront on Chenery Street to the library for less than market rate, and that charming space has been our home ever since.

We will remember Bill Tietz for his kindness to the staff, for his sense of humor, for his wonderful stories of old Glen Park (he was born in Glen Park, in a house that formerly stood on the site of the present library building), and, of course, for the sense of civic responsibility and community that led him (and Mrs. Tietz) to offer the library a home when it needed one.

Fall/Winter Programs at Glen Park Branch:

Famous Women in American History; Saturday, November 22, 2 p.m.

Sandra MacLees, Storyteller; for children ages 6 years and up.

A Music Adventure/Holiday Program; Wednesday, December 10, 7 p.m.

An educational concert for families, presented by a string quartet.

Glen Park Branch: 337-4740; 653 Chenery St. (near Diamond). SF 94131

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Glen Park Association:

2nd Tuesday of the month

7:30 p.m.

Recreation Center

Friends of Glen Canyon Park Meeting Schedule:

3rd Wednesday of the month

7:30pm

Recreation Center

November 20th

December 18th

January 15th

Friends of Glen Canyon Plant Restoration:

3rd Saturday of the month

9 a.m. to noon

Meet behind the Recreation Center

Art Shows Coming to Cafe ?

November: Jeanne Rehrig-Multi-media

December: Janine Loehing-Fabric

January: Kids Art from SF Schools

February: Stephanie Forbes-Flower Photos

March: Jean Conner-Collage

Please submit any calendar items to :

Glen Park Association

PO Box 31392

San Francisco, CA 94131



Photo-Z Nordstrom

Swiss Street Parrot Screeching for the Glen Park News....

Sacramento Report

—Kevin Shelley, Assemblymember, 12th District



The last time I talked to you in the pages of the Glen Park News, the California Legislature was in the heart of its 1997 session, debating some 5,000 bills introduced by 120 lawmakers. Bills I introduced dealing with the epidemic of red-light running, protection of our coastal waters and assistance to relative caregivers had passed the Assembly, but awaited an uncertain fate in the Senate. The 1997 legislative session is now in adjournment until January. I'm pleased to report the passage of some of my major legislation, including AB 1191, which will raise the fine for running a red light from \$104 to \$270 and give half the increase back to the local government where the violation occurred for additional enforcement. The legislature also passed AB 1193, which provides start-up and expansion funds for kinship programs that provide community-based

family support services for relative caregivers. These programs are vital to ensuring the success of kinship families, who often need special support not provided by social service agencies. As this issue of the Glen Park News went to press, both bills were awaiting the governor's signature.

I'm also happy to report that the governor signed AB 1160, a bill I authored that will require lenders to automatically cancel private mortgage insurance when homeowners reach a 25 percent equity in their home. This bill, which will affect loans made after Jan. 1, 1998, could save homeowners as much as \$100 a month.

The legislature and the governor's failure to pass the budget on time was big news in the daily papers. While tardy, the final product of this year's budget negotiations is a huge victory for children and education, middle-income taxpayers and the environment. School districts throughout the state now have more money to achieve class size reductions in grades K-3 with the legislature's passage of a bill increasing funding from \$650 to \$800 per student.

In addition, almost 600,000 uninsured children from low-income families will be the beneficiaries of a much-needed \$855 million health care package funded by a federal cigarette tax. Middle-income Californians will see their taxes cut by \$1.7 billion over the next three years. The tax cut measure includes an increase in the dependent credit from the current \$68 per year to \$150 by 1999 and the establishment of an IRA for educational purposes.

The legislature also passed a package of bills aimed at protecting California's coastline. Currently awaiting the governor's signature are two bills I authored: AB 1429, which would create a comprehensive water quality monitoring program for bays, estuaries and near-shore ocean waters; and AB 411, which would require the posting of warning signs at polluted beaches. The coastal package also includes bills to provide funding for coastal wetlands acquisition, water quality programs and the California Coastal Commission.

One of the biggest and certainly one the most painful issues for the legislature this year was how to implement the federal welfare reform bill. While I believe we as lawmakers did not do enough for families faced with leaving the welfare rolls, the final budget does contain safeguards for elderly legal immigrants and children. As part of the final welfare reform bill passed by the legislature, San Francisco will receive about \$3.6 million to increase the availability of child care for families getting off of welfare as well as additional monies for food stamps for elderly legal immigrants and children.

Now that the legislature is in recess, I'll be spending more time here in San Francisco reconnecting with neighborhoods such as Glen Park, for which I care deeply. The recess also means establishing a legislative agenda for next year. Developing legislation to protect seniors, children and families and preserve the environment will be high on my list of priorities for the coming year.

With the holiday season rapidly approaching, I wish all of you peace and prosperity. As always, I am available to hear your suggestions and concerns.

Kevin Shelley is the State Assemblyman representing the 12th District, which includes Glen Park and Diamond Heights. To contact him, call his district office at 885-1212 or write him at 711 Van Ness Ave., #310, San Francisco, CA 94102.

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Consumer Smarts ...

A Guide for the Perplexed

by Ellis Gans

How to Cope With Identity Theft

An increasingly common white-collar crime occurs when a thief gets hold of your credit or ATM cards or your checks and, using your social security, driver's license or personal identification (PIN) numbers, masquerades as you.

Stealing wallets used to be the typical way thieves obtained credit card numbers and other identification. Now thieves use more sophisticated means:

- Accessing your credit report fraudulently, often by posing as an employer, loan officer or landlord.
- "Shoulder surfing" at ATM machines and phone booths to capture PIN numbers.
- Stealing mail from mailboxes to obtain newly issued credit cards, bank and credit card statements, pre-approved credit offers, or tax information.
- "Dumpster diving" in trash bins for unshredded credit card and loan applications.

Victims of credit and banking fraud are usually not liable for more than the first \$50 of loss if they notify the financial institution within two days of discovering the loss (often the victim is not required to pay any of the loss). But potential monetary loss may be the least of a victim's worries. It can take many months (sometimes years) of persistent effort to overcome the results of identity theft. Victims find little or no help from authorities as they struggle to untangle the web of deception that allowed another person to impersonate them.

If you find yourself in this unfortunate situation, this information should help. When you deal with the authorities and financial institutions, keep a log of all conversations including

dates, names and phone numbers. Note the time you spend and any expenses you incur. Confirm conversations in writing. Send correspondence by certified mail (return receipt requested). Keep copies of all letters and documents.

The following guidelines for victims of identity theft were produced by the Privacy Rights Clearinghouse in San Diego.

Credit Bureaus. Immediately call the fraud units of the three credit reporting companies: Experian (formerly TRW), Equifax and Trans Union. Report the theft of your credit cards or numbers. Ask that your account be flagged. Also, add a victim's statement to your report, up to 100 words. ("My ID has been used to apply for credit fraudulently. Contact me at 415-123-4567 to verify all applications.") Be sure to ask how long the fraud alert will be posted on your account, and how you can extend it if necessary.

These measures may not entirely stop new fraudulent accounts from being opened by the impostor. Ask the credit bureaus in writing to:

- Provide you free copies every few months so you can monitor your credit report.
- Provide you with names and phone numbers of credit grantors with whom fraudulent accounts have been opened.
- Remove inquiries that have been generated due to the fraudulent access.
- Notify those who have received your credit report in the last six months in order to alert them to the disputed and erroneous information (two years for employers).

If you have been denied credit, you are entitled to a free credit report. If you are a victim of fraud, ask the credit bureaus for free copies. Starting in October, 1997, free annual credit reports for victims of identity theft are required by law.

Creditors. Immediately contact all creditors with whom your name has been used fraudulently, both by phone and in writing. Get replacement cards with new account numbers for your own accounts that have been used fraudulently. Ask that old accounts be processed as "account closed at consumer's request." (This is better than "card lost or stolen," because this statement can be interpreted as blaming you for

the loss.) Carefully monitor your mail and credit card bills for evidence of new fraudulent activity, and report any such activity immediately to credit grantors.

To verify fraud, banks and credit grantors may ask you to fill out and notarize fraud affidavits, which could become costly. The law does not require that a notarized affidavit be provided to creditors. A written statement and supporting documentation should be enough (unless the creditor offers to pay for the notary). Overly burdensome requirements by creditors should be reported to federal authorities. For help in determining which agency to contact, call the California Public Interest Research Group (CALPIRG) or the Privacy Rights Clearinghouse (see box).

Law Enforcement. Report the crime to the police (in SF, call the Fraud Section at 553-1521). Give them as much documented evidence as possible. Get a copy of your police report. Keep the phone number of your fraud investigator handy and give it to creditors and others who require verification of your case. Some police departments have been known to refuse to write reports on such crimes. Be persistent!

Stolen Checks. If you have had checks stolen or bank accounts set up fraudulently, report it to the check verification companies (see box for names and phone numbers). Stop payment on any outstanding checks that you are unsure of. Cancel checking and savings accounts and obtain new account numbers. Give the bank a secret password for your account (not mother's maiden name or part of your Social Security number).

ATM Cards. If your ATM card is stolen or compromised, get a new card, account number and password. Do not use your old password. When creating a password, don't use common numbers like the last four digits of your Social Security number or your birthdate.

Fraudulent Change of Address. Notify the local Postal Inspector (in SF, 550-5602) if you suspect an identity thief has filed a change of your address with the post office or has used the mail to commit credit or bank fraud. Find out where fraudulent credit cards were sent. Notify the local Postmaster for that address to forward all mail in your name to your own address. You may also need to talk with the mail carrier.

Secret Service Jurisdiction. The Secret Service has jurisdiction over financial fraud, but it usually does not investigate individual cases unless the dollar amount is high or you are one of many victims of a fraud ring. To interest the Secret Service in your case, you may want to ask the fraud departments of the credit card companies and/or banks, as well as the police investigator, to notify their particular Secret Service agent.

Social Security Number Misuse. Call the Social Security Administration to report fraudulent use of your Social Security number. As a last resort, you might want to change your number, but

the SSA will change it only if you fit their fraud victim criteria. Also order a copy of your Earnings and Benefits Statement and check it for accuracy.

Passports. If you have a passport, notify the passport office in writing to be on the lookout for anyone ordering a new passport fraudulently.

Phone Service. If your long-distance calling card has been stolen or you discover fraudulent charges on your bill, cancel the account and open a new one. Provide a password that must be used any time the account is changed.

Drivers License Number Misuse. You may need to change your driver's license number if someone is using yours as identification on bad checks. Call the Department of Motor Vehicles (in SF, 330-9860) to see if another license was issued in your name; put a fraud alert on your license and request a new license number. Also, fill out the DMV's complaint form to begin the fraud investigation process. Send supporting documents with the completed form to the nearest DMV investigation office.

False Civil and Criminal Judgments. Sometimes victims of identity theft are wrongfully accused of crimes committed by the impostor. If a civil judgment has been entered in your name for actions taken by your impostor, contact the court where the judgment was entered and report that you are a victim of identity theft. If you are wrongfully prosecuted for criminal charges, contact the California Department of Justice and the FBI. Ask how to clear your name.

Legal Help. You may want to consult an attorney to determine legal action to take against creditors and/or credit bureaus if they are not cooperative in removing fraudulent entries from your credit report or if negligence is a factor. Call the SF Bar Association (764-1616) to find an attorney who specializes in consumer law and the Fair Credit Reporting Act.

Dealing With Emotional Stress. Psychological counseling may help you deal with the stress and anxiety commonly experienced by victims. Know that you are not alone. Contact CALPIRG or the Privacy Rights Clearinghouse for information on how to network with other victims.

Changing the System. Write to your state and federal legislators. Demand stronger privacy protection and fraud assistance by creditors and credit bureaus. Contact CALPIRG for information on any pending state or federal legislation.

Don't give in. Finally, refuse to pay any bill or portion of a bill that is a result of identity theft. Do not cover any checks that were written and/or cashed fraudulently. Your credit rating should not be permanently affected, and no legal action should be taken against you. If any merchant, financial institution or collection agency suggests otherwise, simply restate your willingness to cooperate, but don't allow yourself to be coerced into paying fraudulent bills. *Ellis Gans is a retired electrical contractor and a volunteer consumer advisor for the KGO Consumer Hotline and Channel 7 On Your Side. Consumer questions can be phoned to the station Monday - Friday between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. at 954-8151.*

GLEN PARK DENTAL OFFICE

2790 Diamond Street
San Francisco
CA 94131-3057

Dan E. Gustavson, D.D.S.
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Get replacement cards with new account numbers for your own accounts that have been used fraudulently. Ask that old accounts be processed as "account closed at consumer's request." (This is better than "card lost or stolen," because this statement can be interpreted as blaming you for

Can You Help Solve This Crime?

-Zoanne Nordstrom

Inspector Stephen A. Lundberg of the San Francisco Police Department's Homicide Division is asking for our help. Two people have been arrested in connection with the murder of Joseph Jaworowicz at Chenery and Roanoke streets in the early morning hours of August 31, 1994. In its continuing investigation into this crime, the Homicide Division hopes that there are people out there who have either heard something about the circumstances of the shooting, or can remember something connected with the crime.

Witnesses to some aspect of a crime often remember a small detail (cars, people, descriptions), even after considerable time, that can help put the pieces together. Perhaps some of you have heard people discuss the crime who may know the perpetrators, or know of contacts that can lead to further information. Witnesses often think it is too late to report a detail(s) and that it won't make any difference after three years. But it can make a difference, and the investigators believe that someone in the neighborhood may have an important detail to add to the evidence already acquired, however inconsequential it may seem.

If you have any information, no matter how insignificant you think it is, please contact Inspector Lundberg at 553-9116.

Recycling Thieves

There are people driving around the neighborhood on recycle day who steal the cans and bottles from your blue bins and take them to a recycling site and get money for them. What is wrong with this, you ask? The bottles and cans still get recycled, so what difference does it make whether private individuals steal them from the bins or Norcal Recycling picks them up?

There is a difference. Norcal Recycling provides a service for those of us who wish to recycle. Obviously, anyone who puts the bottles and cans out for them is not interested in redeeming them for the cash deposit we pay at the time of purchase. But the money generated from picking up recyclables helps pay for the program. Furthermore, the more we recycle, the more money is awarded to nonprofit organizations for waste prevention and recycling projects. In addition, a Recycling revenue credit is applied quarterly to all residential bills. The amount of the credit depends on the volume and the market price of the materials collected.

The people who are stealing the redeemable cans and bottles usually have a truck, and usually take the cans and bottles during the night (although morning raids are common). They leave the non-redeemable items for pickup. Once you put the cans and bottles in the bins, they become property of the recycling program. There are plenty of bottles and cans in the street, and in garbage cans in parks and other public places available for lawful collecting and redeeming for cash.

You can help stop the illegal theft of recycling materials. If you see someone stealing cans and bottles, take down the license plate number, make, model and color of the vehicle, and a description of the person(s), and report the incident to Sunset Scavenger at 330-2872. They compile daily lists and report the information to the police.

How to Cope With Identity Theft Resources

Credit Reporting Bureaus:

Equifax

P.O. Box 740241

Atlanta, GA 30374-0241

Report fraud: (800) 525-6285 and write to address above

Order credit report: (800) 685-1111

Opt out of pre-approved offers of credit: (800) 556-4711

Experian (formerly TRW)

P.O. Box 1017

Allen, TX 75013

Report fraud: (800) 301-7195 and write to address above

Order credit report: (800) 682-7654

Opt out of pre-approved offers of credit: (800) 353-0809

Trans Union

P.O. Box 390

Springfield, PA 19064

Report Fraud: (800) 680-7289 and write to Fraud Victim Assistance Division, P.O. Box 6790, Fullerton, CA 92634

Order credit report: (800) 888-4213

Opt out of pre-approved offers of credit: (800) 680-7293

Social Security Administration

Report fraud: (800) 269-0271

Order Earnings and Benefits Statement:

(800) 772-1213

To report fraudulent use of your checks

CheckRite: (800) 766-2748

Chexsystems: (800) 428-9623

CrossCheck Inc.: (707) 586-0551

Equifax: (800) 437-5120

National Processing Co.: (800) 526-5380

Shared Check Authorization Network (SCAN): (800) 262-7771

TeleCheck: (800) 927-0188

To obtain government phone numbers

Federal Government Information Center (800) 688-9889 for government agency phone numbers.

Concerned Agencies

CALPIRG

11965 Venice Blvd., Suite 408

Los Angeles, CA 90066

Phone: (310) 397-3404

Hotline: (800) 533-4449

Web address: <http://www.pirg.org/calpirg>
PRIVACY RIGHTS CLEARINGHOUSE
5384 Linda Vista Rd.

Suite 306, San Diego, CA 92110

Phone: (619) 298-3396

Web address: <http://www.privacyrights.org>.



5214-F Diamond Heights Blvd.
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GPA Committee Updates:

Recreation & Parks:

Molly Wright, Co-Chair

Accessing Glen Canyon Park can be a dangerous proposition. The Elk Street entrance near Chenery Street is narrow and lacks a parking strip on the park side of the street. This, in turn, creates an uncomfortably narrow sidewalk along the park from the crosswalk to the entrance.

An individual in our neighborhood suggested to our committee that a drop-off zone near the park entrance is a possible solution to this problem. Our committee believes that this idea has merit. We have been seeking input from interested parties including park staff, baseball coaches, Friends of the Canyon, Glenridge Nursery, adjacent neighbors,

3. Enhance the park entrance, including a kiosk with visitor information and park rules.

4. Move the service gate on Alms Road into the park 20 feet so service vehicles can have room to open the gate without sticking out into traffic.

5. Add a new service gate onto the baseball field for emergency vehicles.

6. Carefully place the new perimeter fence so the baseball field will remain intact.

These ideas have been put together in a community effort to solve problems and improve our neighborhood park. You can participate in this project with your ideas and support. Our goal is to present this plan to the Open-



Silvertree Camp counselors, the ropes course operators and Glen Park D.O.G.

At the September GPA meeting, members discussed the issues of this proposal. On October 14 the general membership voted its endorsement (see drawing). The proposal includes the following:

1. Widen a portion of the west side of Elk Street to create a passenger pick-up/drop-off zone in the space between the tennis courts and the perimeter fence. This loading zone would be long enough to accommodate three cars or a bus.

2. Develop a protected staging area with benches where people can wait safely for their ride.

Space Photo-Z. Nordstrom
Advisory Committee for funds this fall. This process for funds, optimistically, puts completion of the project two years away.

Traffic & Parking Linda Montgomery, Chair

Traffic and transit issues top the list of neighborhood concerns addressed at a community forum in Bernal Heights on October 14. Sponsored by the Department of Public Works, the meeting's purpose was to bring together Glen Park and Bernal Heights residents for discussions with staff of City regulatory agencies.

A group of Glen Park residents and merchants assembled a list of more than 30 areas of improvement for

the neighborhood. Their issues include trash in the Village, double-parked cars around the BART station, pedestrian safety on Elk Street at the park entrance, bus/car conflicts on our narrow streets, vehicle and pedestrian access at such busy intersections as Arlington and Bosworth.

Our neighborhood representatives decided not to prioritize the list, but instead to present everything by area or topic. There are a number of major undertakings on the list, but many small ones as well. While the forum participants include many municipal agencies, it is clear that a

majority of the Glen Park concerns are traffic- or transit-related. A special thank you to the Muni riders who were able to identify some of the problems on the 44 and the J-Church extension.

Unfortunately, the community forum date was the same night as our October Glen Park Association meeting, so it was not possible to be at both places at once. Many thanks for all the great suggestions, and please call me if you have more to add to our growing list. Look for a report on our degree of success in the next issue of Glen Park News.

Publications: N. Dowley
Again, we can't thank our contributors enough for their efforts to put out the Glen Park News. The next submittal deadline is **January 15**, which we hope will give you enough time after the holidays to get your copy in.

Help Wanted! We're looking for an Ad Coordinator. The position entails dropping off advertising packages and keeping a record of who buys ads. If you've been waiting for that perfect volunteer opportunity, close to home, flexible hours and terrific co-workers, this is it! Give us a call at 737-1366.

